

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 3-8 are amended to use language in conformity with common U.S. practice. Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 2. Claim 2 is canceled. No new matter is added.

The specification is amended to include headings and subheadings recommended by the USPTO, to remove references to specific claims, and to include reference to related applications. No new matter is added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2, 3, and 5 are indicated by the Examiner as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of any intervening claims.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 2 and to use language in conformity with common U.S. practice. Consequently, claim 1, as amended, is equivalent to rewriting claim 2 in independent form. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claim 1 be allowed.

Claim 3 is indicated as by the Examiner as being allowable. Claim 3 is an independent claim and is amended to use language in conformity with common U.S. practice. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claim 3 be allowed.

Claims 4-8 are and amended to use language in conformity with common U.S. practice and depend, directly or indirectly from claims 1 or 3. Claim 1, as amended, and claim 3 are indicated as allowable subject matter by the Examiner. Consequently,

claims 4-8 are also allowable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 4-8 be allowed.

Claims Rejections 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 4, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 2158210. The Examiner's rejection has been carefully considered.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 2, which is not rejected as being anticipated by GB 2158210. Consequently claim 1, as amended, is not anticipated by GB 2158210. Claims 4 and 6 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also not anticipated by GB 2158210. In view of the amendment to claim 1 and the foregoing arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1, 4, and 6 as being anticipated by GB 2158210 be withdrawn.

Claims Rejections 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over GB 2158210 in view of Sham (US 5692315). The Examiner's rejection has been carefully considered.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claim 2, which is not rejected as being anticipated by GB 2158210 or unpatentable over GB2158210 in view of Sham. Claim 3 is indicated as allowable by the Examiner. Claims 7 and 8 depend from claims 1 or 3. Consequently claims 7 and 8 depend from allowable claims and are therefore allowable. In view of the amendment to claim 1 and the foregoing arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

The application in its amended state is believed to be in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited. Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification and/or claims be further amended or corrected in formal respects to put this case in condition for final allowance, then it is requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment and the case passed to issue.

Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,



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